

MINUTES  
**SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, January 30, 2023

**TIME:** 3:00 P.M.

**PLACE:** Room WW55

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Lent, Vice Chairman Toews, Senators Den Hartog, Nichols, Carlson, Herndon, Lenney, Ward-Engelking, and Semmelroth

**ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None

**NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

**CONVENED:** **Chairman Lent** called the Senate Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:01 p.m.

**WELCOME:** **Chairman Lent** welcomed all to the Committee meeting.

**PRESENTATION: Education Excellence Presentation: The good things happening in Council School District.** **Clete Edmundson**, Superintendent of the Council School District, and Council High School Principal, gave a presentation on the successful turnaround of Idaho Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) scores in the Council School District. He stated the prioritization of math and reading in elementary schools was an example of the successful path that the Council School District has taken since the great recession. He also mentioned the increase in Preliminary Standards Achievement Test (PSAT) scores as an indicator of progress.

**DISCUSSION:** **Senator Lenney** asked Mr. Edmundson about one piece of advice that he would offer to other school districts around the State. He answered that having a shared vision from everyone involved in the education sphere had been critical to Council's success, and that having a common goal in place was very powerful.

**Senator Nichols** asked about the success of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program in Council and how many students were involved in the program. **Mr. Edmundson** noted he could not provide an official figure, but stated the CTE programs were very popular. This program used various incentives for students involved with CTE in order to attract and keep needed workers.

**Senator Herndon** asked if there were any changes of the membership of the Council School District or in the district curriculum that contributed to the increase in test scores. **Mr. Edmundson** commented that there was one change on the school board, but maintained that IStation and PSAT testing were the biggest contributing factors.

**Senator Den Hartog** asked what was the biggest roadblock to increasing the test scores of the students. **Mr. Edmundson** responded that administering the tests was the hardest part of the improvement.

**PRESENTATION: What the Idaho Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (IACTE) does.** **Lori Sanchez**, IACTE, explained the Educator Preparation Program (EPP), helped prepare teachers for the teaching profession in Idaho. She also provided statistics and information about IACTE's efforts and encouraged the Committee to contact IACTE representatives to maintain a positive relationship.

**DISCUSSION:** **Senator Den Hartog** asked those presenting how many of the teachers involved with IACTE were from Idaho. **Dr. James Satterfield, Jr.**, Dean of the College of Education, Boise State University (BSU), noted he did not have the statistics before him, but assured the Committee that IACTE would take care of and promote Idaho teachers in IACTE.

**Senator Nichols** asked about the EPP enforcement costs. **Ms. Sanchez** responded there was no cost to implement the framework of the EPP.

**Chairman Lent** asked for a brief history of the background of Charlotte Danielson, who was one of the most well-known educators in the country and responsible for drafting an education blueprint that many states followed. **Tracy Bent**, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education, explained that Mrs. Danielson's blueprint was adopted for statewide administrative rules.

**RS 30025** **Repeal Article IX Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of Idaho (aka The Blaine Amendment).** **Senator Lenney** stated **RS 30025** repealed Article IX Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of Idaho, also known as the Blaine Amendment.

**MOTION:** **Senator Herndon** moved to send **RS 30025** to print. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**ADJOURNED:** There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Lent** adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

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Senator Lent  
Chair

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Linette Grantham  
Secretary

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James Nelson  
Assistant Secretary